Office of the Yavapai County Attorney

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VS.

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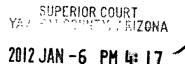
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SHEILA POLK, COUNTY ATTORNEY
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Attorneys for STATE OF ARIZONA



BY: James SARA

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF YAVAPAI

STATE OF ARIZONA,

CAUSE NO. P1300CR201001325

Plaintiff,

REPLY ON ADMISSIBILITY OF

STEVEN CARROLL DEMOCKER,

Defendant.

REPLY ON ADMISSIBILITY OF DEFENDANT'S JULY 21, 2009 INTERVIEW

Assigned to Hon. Gary Donahoe

The State of Arizona, by and through Sheila Sullivan Polk, Yavapai County Attorney, and her deputy undersigned hereby replies to Defendant's response dated January 5, 2012.

The July 21, 2009 interview was not a free talk as Defendant alleges. Exhibit 1 was a letter agreement prepared by John Sears which the County Attorney refused to sign. There was no agreement on the use of Defendant's voluntary statements.

In a "free talk" the witness waives his Fifth Amendment privilege against self incrimination in exchange for immunity from prosecution for admissions made during the talk. *Kastigar v United States*, 406 U.S. 441, 92 S.Ct. 1553 (1972). In Arizona, the free talk maybe voluntary pursuant to a written agreement or compelled by court order pursuant to A.R.S §13-4064.

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Cooperation agreements are contractual in nature. State v Platt, 162 Ariz. 414, 783 P, 2d 1206 (App.1989). "A proffer agreement is a contract and its terms must be read to give effect to the parties' intent. *Mejia v. Irwin*, 195 Ariz. 270, 987 P.2d 756 (App. 1999)

"In State v Hector Campoy, 220 Ariz 539, 207 P.3d 792 (2009), the State appealed an order limiting statements Leland Crockwell ("Crockwell") made to law enforcement in a free talk. Crockwell agreed to participate in "a debriefing" or "free talk". According to the written agreement, anything Crockwell said during the debriefing would not be used against him. However, if he gave false, misleading or incomplete information then his statements could be used against him.

On April 17, 2007 Crockwell gave his first free talk. On April 19, 2007 Crockwell and the State entered into a plea agreement. The plea agreement contained a clause allowing the State to declare it null and void if Crockwell was untruthful or uncooperative. Later Crockwell gave law enforcement two more statements but made an inconsistent statement in the last talk. The State was permitted to withdraw from the plea agreement.

State wanted to use Crockwell's statements in its case in chief. The court ruled they could only be used for impeachment purposes even though Crockwell breached their agreement. Campoy reversed the trial court and allowed the State to use Crockwell's statements in its case in chief due to his breach of the agreement.

The unsigned letter attached to the motion is proof the parties did not enter into a "free talk" agreement. Defendant's statements were voluntary and should be admitted in the State's case in chief.

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RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 6th day of January, 2012. 1 2 Sheila Sullivan Polk YAVAPAI COUNTY ATTORNEY 3 4 5 Deputy County Attorney 6 COPY of the foregoing emailed this 7 6th day of January, 2012, to: 8 Honorable Gary Donahoe Division 1 Yavapai County Superior Court 10 Via email to: gdonahoe1@courts.az.gov Via email to Cheryl Wagster: CWagster@courts.az.gov 11 Craig Williams 12 Attorney for Defendant 13 P.O Box 26692 Prescott Valley, AZ 86312 14 Via email to craigwilliamslaw@gmail.com 15 Greg Parzych Co-counsel for Defendant 16 2340 W. Ray Rd., Suite #1 17 Chandler, AZ 85224 Via email to: gparzlaw@aol.com 18 Daniela De La Torre 19 Attorney for victim Charlotte DeMocker 20 245 West Roosevelt, Suite A 21 Phoenix, AZ 85003 Via email to: ddelatorre@azbar.org 22 Melody G. Harmon 23 Attorney for victim Katie DeMocker 24 210 S. 4th Ave., Suite 220 25 Phoenix, AZ 85003 Via email to mharmonlaw@gmail.com

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